

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 216662
ORIGIN SP-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 SS-15 EB-08 L-03 INR-07
/048 R

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P 092219Z SEP 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 216662

STADIS////////////////////////////////////
USEEC - USOECD

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: XT

SUBJECT: WEST EUROPEAN FACTOR IN AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY

1. S/P AND EUR ARE PREPARING A PAPER FOR THE SECRETARY ON THE LIKELY IMPACT OF WEST EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SITUATIONS ON THE PURSUIT OF US FOREIGN POLICY GOALS OVER THE NEXT YEAR. SOME OF THESE GOALS HAVE TO DO WITH EUROPE ITSELF, E.G., MAINTAINING THE ECONOMIC STRENGTH OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED DEMOCRACIES AND MEETING LONDON SUMMIT GOALS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF NATO DEFENSES. BUT WE ALSO WANT EUROPEAN COOPERATION ON AN AMBITIOUS LIST OF GLOBAL INITIATIVES. THESE INCLUDE EFFORTS TO LIMIT THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR OR CONVENTIONAL ARMS; TO MAKE PROGRESS IN THE
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MTN; TO COOPERATE ON CONSTRUCTIVE NORTH-SOUTH POLICIES; TO PROMOTE PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND A SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST; AND TO ADVANCE HUMAN RIGHTS.

2. WE ENVISAGE A PAPER WHICH WILL DISCUSS EUROPE'S INTERNAL SITUATION AS BACKDROP TO AN ASSESSMENT OF

POSSIBILITIES FOR AND LIMITS ON US-EUROPEAN COOPERATION;
HOW BEST TO WIN IT WHEN POSSIBLE; AND HOW TO LIMIT
THE DAMAGE (TO OUR GLOBAL INITIATIVES OR TO US-EUROPEAN
RELATIONS) FROM SUCH DISAGREEMENTS AS ARE LIKELY TO

PERSIST.

3. ALTHOUGH THE PRESIDENT'S GOALS ARE CLEAR, WE RECOGNIZE
THAT THE SPECIFIC IMPLEMENTING STEPS ON WHICH WE WILL WANT
EUROPEAN AGREEMENT ARE STILL BEING WORKED OUT. ONE OF THE
OBJECTS OF THIS EXERCISE IS TO GET YOUR ADVICE ON THOSE
STEPS.

4. ALL ADDRESSEES HAVE DONE VALUABLE REPORTING ON THE
STATE OF GOVERNMENT AND SOMETIMES POPULAR ATTITUDES ON
THESE AND OTHER ISSUES. WE NOW WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR HELP
IN PUTTING THE PIECES TOGETHER CONCISELY AND WITH
NEW INFORMATION AND ANY IMPLICATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS
YOU MAY WISH TO DRAW. WE WOULD LIKE YOUR ASSESSMENT OF:
THE STATE OF GOVERNMENT THINKING ON THE RANGE OF US INITIA-
TIVES; THE DOMESTIC CONSTRAINTS ON A GOVERNMENT'S ABILITY
TO COOPERATE ACTIVELY ON SUCH ISSUES IF IT WERE SO IN-
CLINED; THE EXPECTATIONS WHICH GOVERNMENTS HAVE OF US;
WHAT DIFFERENCE ANY CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT WOULD MAKE; AND
PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANT, YOUR BEST JUDGMENT OF POSSIBLE
TRADE OFFS AMONG OUR VARIOUS GOALS AND HOW WE SHOULD
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PURSUE AND PRIORITIZE THEM IN DEALING WITH YOUR COUNTRY.

5. WE INTEND TO SEND OUR PAPER TO THE SECRETARY IN EARLY
OCTOBER. WE THEREFORE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTS ON
THE COMPLEX ISSUES SKETCHED ABOVE BY FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE216662
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JWALKER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770327-1166
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770979/aaaacost.tel
Line Count: 100
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e5010e49-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SP
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1323490
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEST EUROPEAN FACTOR IN AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY
TAGS: PGOV, XT, US
To: NATO POSTS MADRID MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e5010e49-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009